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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A2g
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1. Augustin Jean Gruenais, Secretary General of the French Federation of Maritime Unions, is also Secretary General of the Trade Union International of Seamen and Dockers, an affiliate of the World Federation of Trade Unions. Source reports that Gruenais plays an important part in the anti-MDAP campaign, but has no evidence to support this statement.*
2. Gruenais is described by source as intelligent and a hard worker. He is well thought of by leaders of the French Communist Party and the Confederation Generale du Travail (CGT). Although a leader in his union, source believes that Gruenais is not of a high enough caliber to rise any further in the CGT.
3. Gruenais was born on 9 August 1909 at Saint-Helen (Cotes-du-Nord), France. Both his parents, Eugene and Henriette Gruenais, are dead. He served in the French Navy from 6 September 1939 until July 1940, and in the Royal British Navy from July 1940 to September 1942.
4. During his residence in the United Kingdom Gruenais was known as a Communist. He was in contact with the headquarters of the British Communist Party and was reported to have addressed a May Day meeting in London in 1943 which was organized by the Party.
5. While in London, Gruenais was on friendly terms with Waldeck Rochet**, the French Communist peasant leader, and often sought his advice. One Menouer***, a militant member of the Port and Dock Union of Le Havre, was Gruenais' assistant. Source believes that if Menouer remained with the Le Havre Dock Union, an affiliate of the CGT, he is probably now one of the most prominent personalities in the harbor work of that organization.
6. On 21 September 1942 Gruenais was appointed Secretary of the French Seamen's Union, International Transport Workers Federation, 25 Euston Road, London, N.W. 1. In 1943 Gruenais visited the Free French headquarters at

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[illegible]

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Algeria. After August 1944 he appears to have divided his time between France and England until 24 July 1946 when he again took up residence in France. His wife, nee Peggy Higgs, a Communist and employee of the Daily Worker of London, accompanied him to France. She was born in Canada and had resided in England since 1940. Gruenais holds French passport No. 03972 which was issued on 17 January 1946.

25X1A6a ~~Comment.~~

25X1A2g * Gruenais' alleged role in the anti-MDAP campaign was reported previously in by a source who is in no way connected with the source of paragraph 1.

25X1A2g ** See which contains some biographical information concerning Waldeck Rochet and an account of his stay in London during the war.

25X1A6a ~~Comment.~~

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*** In a report dated a certain Menouer, an Arab and a native of Algiers, is described as one of the most aggressive organizers of the French Seamen's Union and an active member of the Communist Party. He was an intimate friend of Becu, the head of the Union Belge des Ouvriers de Transport of Antwerp, and of the Dutch Union leaders with whom he associated in London during the war. Another report states that a Le Menouer was Secretary of the Seamen's Union of Rouen in March 1948.

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